

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-8. (cancelled)

Claim 9. (new) The improvement to a process for fabricating an optical fiber having the steps of

providing a core doped with active species;

providing an inner cladding surrounding the core, the inner cladding having a first polygon profile with discrete sides adjoining one another at a first set of angles wherein light can be reflected within the inner cladding about the core doped with active species along paths having local modes which do not intersect the core doped with active species;

providing an outer cladding surrounding the inner cladding;

the improvement to the process for fabricating an optical fiber comprising the additional steps of:

altering the first polygon profile of the inner cladding to a second asymmetric and symmetry-broken polygon profile having a second set of angles about the core doped with active species, the second asymmetric and symmetry-broken polygon profile of the inner cladding departing from the first polygon profile with the first set of angles by having small angular changes to at least two of the angles whereby the polygon has a second set of angles with the local modes of continuing reflection within the inner cladding minimized and destroyed; and,

changing at least one boundary of the asymmetric and symmetry broken polygon to the shape of an arc.

Claim 10. (new) The improvement to a process for fabricating an optical fiber according to claim 9 and wherein:

the first polygon profile is a rectangle.